K Puckle (James)

England's Way

TO

Wealth and Honour:

IN A

DIALOGUE

BETWEEN

An *English-man*

AND

A *DUTCH-MAN*.

1028. h. 16
4

Luke V. 4.

Launch out into the Deep, and let down your Nets for a Draught.

LONDON:
Printed for *Sam. Crouch* at the Corner of *Popes-Head-Alley*, over-against the *Royal Exchange* in *Cornhill*. 1699.

To His Grace the

Duke of *LEEDS*,

Preſident of his Majeſty's moſt

Honourable *Privy Council.*

May it Pleaſe your Grace,

NO Perſon having ſpent more Money, or taken more Pains than your Grace, to Re-eſtabliſh the Fiſhery of *England*, I preſume to Dedicate to your Grace the following Dialogue; not that I have the Vanity to think this my poor Mite can make any Addition to your Graces great Treaſure of Knowledge; but as believing the Fact in this little Book contained ſo True, that it may ſafely appear before the beſt of Judges; I am with all Reſpect,

Your Graces

Moſt Humble,

Moſt Faithful,

And moſt Obedient Servant,

James Puckle.

PREFACE.

THE *Highlands of* Scotland, Wales, Biſcay, Switzerland, *and other Countries* (not worth the Conquering) *continue ſtill in Poſſeſſion of their Aborigines: Whereas* England *being a Country* (as was ſaid of the Tree of Paradiſe) *good for Food, pleaſant to the Eyes, and to be deſired, hath been Poſſeſſed by Five ſeveral Nations, and Coveted by many more.*

Yet view our Coaſts, they'll appear bold, and but thinly Inhabited; and the Civil Wars of our Iſland having occaſioned the Demoliſhing of its ſtrong Holds, in caſe of Attack, How can we be defended againſt Powerful Enemies, but by a Naval Power?

As for our Navy, allowing us Maſters of more tall Ships, than any of our Neighbours, What Security can they afford us, if we want Seamen?

Now

Now whether Marriners be wanting in England, *beſt appears by our turning 'em o're from Ship to Ship, by our long, long Embargo's, and yet exceſſive Charge in Preſſing Seamen, and by ſo many of our Ships being loſt* (during the late War) *for want of their Complement.*

Nor is this Defect to be ſupplied but by a National Fiſhery: For Men of War and Merchantmen ſpend many Marriners and breed few; the great and beſt Nurſery for Seamen is the Fiſhery, where every Buſs brings up it may be, Six, Eight, or Ten new Men every Year; and the Fiſhermen's Buſineſs lying where our Ships danger lies, makes them know how the Sands ſhift, where the Rocks and Shelves are, conſequently moſt able Coaſters, and admirable Pilots.

Beſides, by frequent riding out great Storms in ſmall Buſſes and Doggers, Fiſhermen become ſo ſteel'd and habituated to Danger, that in Tempeſts and Engagements they work Wonders: And the Fiſh lying upon our own Coaſts, the Men we Employ to catch them (tho' out of his Majeſty's pay) *will be ever at hand, and ſo ready for Service, as to make our watchfulleſt Enemies deſpair of ſurpriſing us.*

Again,

Again, the Lord Chief Juſtice Hale *ſays,*
'That a due care for the Poor is an Act of
'great Civil Prudence, and Political Wiſdom;
'for Poverty in it ſelf is apt to Emaſculate the
'Minds of Men, or at leaſt it makes Men tumul-
'tuous and unquiet. Where there are many very
'Poor, the Rich cannot long or ſafely continue ſuch;
'Neceſſity renders Men of phlegmatick and dull
'Natures, ſtupid and indiſciplinable; and Men
'of more Fiery or Active Conſtitutions, rapacious
'and deſperate.

Now what better Proviſions can be made for the Poor, than by Eſtabliſhing a National Fiſhery, which (as is ſhown in the following Dialogue) *will be a moſt effectual Expedient to Employ them, and turn the great Burthen of our Nation into an equal Benefit.*

Much more might be ſaid to this purpoſe, but at preſent ſhall only add, That within this Thirty Years laſt paſt, our Active Neighbours the French *have Encreaſed their Navigation to a Proverb, given* Europe *much Diſquiet, and coſt* England (in particular) *abundance of Blood and Treaſure.*

But

But had English-men *not been guilty of more than* Spanish *Sloath, in not putting forth their Hands to take that Rich Bleſſing* (the Fiſhery) *which Providence by placing upon our Coaſts, courts us* (as it were) *to receive, all our* SOVEREIGNS (as well as Queen *Elizabeth*) *might have bounded the Numbers of the* French *Fleet, and would have long ſince been*

Pacis Europæ Arbitri
Maris Domini & Vindices.

A NEW DIALOGUE

Between an *Engliſhman* and a *Dutchman.*

Dutchman. GOOD Morrow Friend, what art muſing on?

Engliſhman. Conſidering the Extent of theſe *Dykes*, I was thinking what exceſſive *charge* and *pains* Holland is yearly at to *defend* it ſelf againſt *Invading Waves*; whereas the Seas that encircle *happy* England (*Barriere like*) fenceth it againſt *Surpriſe* and *Ravages*, exempts us from the *Charge* and *Terrour* of *Garriſons* and *Fortifications*; and (*with* our *Floating Caſtles*) continues to us that *Quiet Liberty* and *Security* the reſt of Europe (*more or leſs*) have loſt.

Beſides the cold *Winds* (*being moiſten'd by the Vapours, or ſoftned by the warmth of the Seas motion, before they reach our Iſland*) are leſs *fierce*, and the *Air* is far more *mild* and *temperate* (*if*

not more healthy) than any part of the *Continent* under the ſame *Climate*; ſo that we have no *neceſſity* for **Grotto's** in *Summer* or **Stoves** in *Winter*.

D. In my Opinion the *Country* is moſt *happy* that is bleſt with the greateſt *Trade*; and that *Air* ſtill the beſt where moſt *Money* is ſtirring; for *Poverty* and *Want* will render *People* **Unhealthy** in all *Climates*; wherefore if you'd charm *me* with *your* **Iſland**, prove it hath *more* and *richer* **Growths** and **Products** for *Traffick* and *Commerce* then **Holland**.

E. Know then that **England** hath many *Mines*, *Rocks*, *Pitts*, and *Quarries*, abounding with (*a*) **Alablaſter**, (*b*) **Antimony**, (*c*) **Ardois**, (*d*) **Black-Lead**, (*e*) **Chalk**, (*f*) **Chryſtal**, (*g*) *Tobacco-pipe* **Clay**, (*h*) **Coals** of divers ſorts, (*i*) **Copper**, (*k*) **Fullers-Earth**, (*l*) **Freeſtone**, (*m*) **Iron**, (*n*) **Lapis-Calaminaris**, to make Braſs, (*o*) **Load-**

(*a*) Derby-ſhire, Nottingham-ſhire, Stafford-ſhire, (*b*) Derby-ſhire, (*c*) Cornwall, (*d*) Cumberland, (*e*) Suſſex, (*f*) Derbyſhire, (*g*) Dorſetſhire, (*h*) Carmarthen-ſhire, Cumberland, Durham, Lancaſhire, Leiceſter-ſhire, Northumberland, Shrop-ſhire, Stafford-ſhire, York-ſhire, (*i*) Cornwall, Cumberland, Derby-ſhire, Staffordſhire, York-ſhire, (*k*) Bedford-ſhire, Surrey, (*l*) Dorſet-ſhire (*m*) Derby-ſhire, Durham, Glouceſter-ſhire, Hampſhire, Shrop-ſhire, Stafford-ſhire, Warwick-ſhire, (*n*) Somerſet-ſhire, (*o*) Devon-ſhire.

ſtones,

ſtones, (p) **Lead**, (q) **Marble**, (r) **Mill-ſtones**, (s) **Plaiſter** harder than that of *Paris*, (t) **Potters Dar**, (u) **Slate**, (w) **Salt**, (x) **Steel**, (y) **Tinn**, (z) **Whetſtones**, &c.

Upon its *Coaſts* are found (a) **Amber**, (b) **Ambergriſe**, (c) abundance of **Copperice ſtone**, (d) **Jett**, (e) **Pearls**, (f) fine tranſparent **Pebbles**, &c. In ſhort (*not to mention the* **Rich** *Commodities yearly imported from its Fruitful Plantations, that are to* **it** *as ſo many Mines of Treaſure.*) **England** ſo abounds with **Corn, Cattle, Fowle, Fruit, Pulſe, Leather, Wool**, &c. that tho **its** Inhabitants are above *Seven Millions* and *Fifty five thouſand Souls*, it produceth **Food** and **Raiment** ſufficient for *treble* their Numbers.

D. What ſignifies all this in Compariſon to the (g) **Golden Mines** of our *Provinces*, which have yielded us more Trea-

---

(p) Cardigan-ſhire, Carmarthen-ſhire, Derby-ſhire, Devon-ſhire, Durham, Stafford-ſhire, York-ſhire, (q) Derby-ſhire, Dorſet-ſhire, (r) Angleſey, Cheſhire, Derby-ſhire, Flint-ſhire, (s) Nottingham-ſhire, (t) Carmarthenſhire, (u) Cornwall, (w) Cheſhire, Cumberland, Worceſter-ſhire, (x) Glouceſter-ſhire, (y) Cornwall, Devon-ſhire, (z) Derby-ſhire.

(a) Norfolk, (b) Cornwall, (c) Whitſtable Shallow, (d) Norfolk, (e) Cumberland, (f) Cornwall, Glauceſterſhire, (g) *So the* Dutch *in a Proclam.* 1624. *ſtiled* the Fiſhing Trade.

ſure than the *Mines* of *Potoſi*, or both *Indies* to *Spain*.

E. The **Golden Mines** of your Provinces, Pray where do they lye?

D. In *Neptunes Vivarium*, which the **Engliſh** call *their* **Seas**.

E. Our Famous **Edgar**, with a *Navy* of 400 Sail, vindicated his *Dominion* on our adjacent **Seas**; and *Records* mention his Succeſſor **Canutus** to have laid that ancient Tribute called **Dane-gelt** upon all, whether *Strangers* or *Denizons*, Trading on our *Coaſts* or *Seas*. **Egbert, Alfred,** and **Ethelfred,** all ſtiled themſelves *Supream Lords* and *Governors* of the **Ocean** ſurrounding the *Britiſh Shore*. King **John** (*b*) challenged the Honour (*or rather Duty*) of the **Flag**, univerſally paid **us**, not barely as a *Civility*, but as a *Right*, and (*debitâ reverentia*) acknowledging **our** *Title* and *Dominion*. The famous *Record* entituled, *Pro Hominibus Hollandiæ*, ſhews how obſequious *your* **Anceſtors** were, not only in acknowledging (*i*) **Edward** the Firſt's *Dominion* on the **Sea**, but craving his *Protection* and *Permiſſion* to **Fiſh** on the *Coaſts* of *England*; and had not the *Sovereignty* of the **Britiſh Seas** in *Fact*, been in the *Crown* of **England**, why did the (*k*) *Earls* of **Holland** Pe-

(*b*) *A°* 1200. (*i*) *A°* 1295. (*k*) *Rot. Pat.* 23. Ed. 1*ſt*. Memb. 5.

tition

tition **Edward** the Third (and the (*l*) *French* our *Henry* the Sixth) for *leave* to **Fish** therein? And why did **your** (*m*) *Schippers* use to purchase *License* from *Scarbrough-Castle*, before they presumed to *cast* a **Nett** upon the *North Coasts* of **England**. Wherefore did **Philip** the Second of *Spain* (*n*) obtain *License* of Queen **Mary**, for his *Subjects* to **Fish** upon the *North Coasts* of **Ireland**, for the Term of 21 Years, for which was *yearly* paid *One thousand* Pounds into the *Exchequer* of **Ireland**, as by the *Records* appears.

D. A *Fig* for *your* mouldy *Records*; I say the **Sea** is as free to **Fish** in as———

E.——as the *Roads* of **Holland** (*where both Natives and Foreigners are forced to pay Passage Ghelt*) are to *travel* in.

D. Don't Interrupt me Sir; I say the **Sea** is as *free* to **Fish** in, as the **Air** is to *Breath* in, who doubts it may read **Hugo Grotius**'s *Mare Liberum.*

E. **Grotius** in his *Sylvæ*, upon the Inauguration of *King* **James**, (*before he was perverted by the Importunities of his Country men*) speaking his thoughts freely says,

———Tria Sceptra profundi
In Magnum Coiere ducem

(*l*) Rot. Pat. 22. Ed. 4. Memb. 2. (*m*) Camb. Britt. (*n*) A° 1552.

The

The *Rights* of the *Engliſh*, *Scottiſh* and *Iriſh* Seas, are united under one *Scepter*; neither is he ſatisfy'd with that bare Profeſſion.

Sume animos a Rege tuo qui dat Jura Mari.

Take *courage* from the *King* who giveth *Laws* unto the Seas; and in the ſame Book in the Contemplation of ſo great a Power, he concludeth,

Finis hic eſt, qui fine caret, &c.

This is an *End* beyond an *End*, a *Bound* that knows no *Bounds*, which even the Wind and the Waves muſt *ſubmit* unto.

Again in his Annals (*o*) Grotius ſays,

Angliæ Regina Oceani Imperium.

That the *Queen* of England was *Dominatrix* of the Sea.

And if you remember *King* James taking notice of your *daily* Encroachments, enjoyned his Ambaſſador, Sir *Dudley Carleton*, to Expoſtulate it with your *States*, as may be ſeen in Mr. *Secretaries* Letter (*p*) wherein he tells them, 'That unleſs they ſought leave from his *Majeſty*,

(*o*) L. 2. *A*° 1570. (*p*) 21 *Dec.* 1618.

and

'*and acknowledged his Right*, as other Princes 'had done, (*and did*) *it might well come to pass*, '*that they who would needs bear all the World be-*'*fore them by their* Mare Liberum, *might soon en-*'*danger their having neither* Terram, nec Solum, 'nec Rempublicam liberam. So much did that *wise* **Prince** disdain to be wrangled out of the ancient *Rights* and *Regalities* inherently *annexed* to his **Crown**, by the *subtle Arguments* of *Wit* and *Sophistry*.

D. What care I what King **James** did? *I* still say that the **Sea** is *free* for any Body to **Fish** in, and defy *you* to prove the contrary.

E. If the **Sea** be free, (*as you say*) Why do the **Venetians** Exercise *Dominion* in the *Adriatique*, and the **Tuscans** *Lord* it in the *Tyrrhene* **Seas**? Why do all **your** *Schippers* pay *Toll* to **Denmark** for *passing* the *Sound*, and to **Sweveland** for *Sailing* in the *Baltick*? Wherefore do the *Republick* of **Genoa** let to *Farm* the *Fishery* for **Tunnies** in their neighbouring **Seas**? How is't, that the *Emperor* of **Russia** compelleth all *Fisher men* within his **Seas** to pay him *Tribute*, and that the *like* is done by the *Duke* of *Medina Sidonia* in **Spain**, and by the *Princes* of **Italy** bordering on the **Seas**? Nay, why do the **Dutch** Stile themselves **Lords** of the **Southern Seas**,

and

and allow *leſs* Liberty in **India** then they take upon the **Engliſh Coaſts.**

But to Wave this Diſpute, pray Sir, how many *Labourers* have *you* in *your* **Golden Mines** as *you* call them.

D. Upon taking an account of the ſeveral *Trades* and *Employments* by which the **Dutch** ſubſiſted *(in order to find which beſt deſerved the Protection and Encouragement of the Publick)* it appeared that in *A°* 1668. the *Subjects* of the **States General** were *(q) Two Millions four hundred thouſand Souls*; of which, (beſides thoſe employed in the *Inland-***Fiſhery***) Four hundred and fifty thouſand* were then maintained by *Fiſhing* at **Sea,** and the *Trafick* depending thereon, ſince which time we have much *encreaſed* the numbers of our Fiſhing Buſſes and Doggers, to the great Encouragement of our Navigation, and the *Thirty four* Trades depending on the Fiſhery.

E. Which are they ?

D. Anchor ſmiths, Bakers, Ballaſt-men, Basket-makers, Black-ſmiths, Brewers, Butchers, Carpenters, Caulkers, Clapboard Splitters, Compaſs-makers, Coopers, Duck-Weavers Hemp Dreſſers, Hook-makers, Hoop ſplitters, Joyners, Line-makers, Marriners, Maſt-makers, Net makers, Net-Tanners, Plummers, Pully-makers, Pump-makers, Rope-

(q) *Pol. gron.* & Maxims. Van *Holl.* pag. 43.

makers,

makers, *Sail-makers*, *Sawyers*, *Ship-Chandlers*, *Ship-wrights*, *Tallow Chandlers*, *Thread and Twine-Spinners*, &c. to the no small Encouragement of the *Makers* and *Venders* of all *Materials*, *Tools* and *Utensils*, belonging to any of the above *Trades*, to which might be added Makers and Sellers of *Culinary-wares*, *Bedding*, *Cloathing*, &c. for *Sailors*, also *Packers*, *Tollers*, *Dressers* and *Couchers*, to sort and make the Herring lawful Merchandize; all which still Encourage the *Farmer* by a continual Consumption of the Product of the *Earth*. In short, our Fishery affords *us* as universal Employment in Holland, as the *Woollen Manufacture* occasions in England.

E. Pray where, and at what times of the Year do *you* Fish upon our *Coasts*.

D. In the beginning of *June* the Herrings rising about two Leagues off Crane-Head, (*the outermost part of Bratio Sound*) stay *there* about fourteen days, thence go to Farry-Island, (*Seven Leagues to the Southward of Shetland*) round which *they* remain *One and Twenty* days, thence to Buffinnels (about *Thirty Leagues to the Southward of Farry Island*) the *Fishing* place is called *Buffin deeps*, and is *Twenty* Leagues to the *Northward* of the Firth, where the Herring abide about *fourteen* days, and in the Fishing Ground under Chivit-hills and *Chivit-Chace*, about *Fourteen*

 days;

days; thence we follow them to the *Dogger-Bank*, where they ſtay about *Thirty ſeven* days, and about the beginning of *September* they come into Yarmouth-Seas, where they continue about *Seventy* days, from whence they fall to the *Southward*, followed by ſmall *Fiſher-boats*, it being dangerous for *Buſſes*.

E. What quantities of Fiſh are *yearly* taken by the Dutch?

D. About (*r*) *Three hundred thouſand Laſts.*

E. This confirms Sir *Walter Raleigh*'s Obſervations preſented to *King* James, (*s*) and ſhews, that the Learned Sir *John Burroughs*, in his *Sovereignty* of the Britiſh Seas, upon good grounds affirmed, that the Fiſh yearly taken by *Strangers* upon our Coaſts, did amount to (*t*) above *Ten Millions of Pounds* Sterling.

But pray Sir, where have *you vent* for all your Fiſh.

D. At *Artois, Brabant, Bremen, Cleveland, Cologne, Dantzig, Denmark, Elbin, Embden, Flanders, France, Frankfort, Germany, Gulickland, Hamburgh, Henault, Holſteine, Italy, Liefland, Lithuania, Lubeck, Nerva, Norway, Poland, Pomerland, Portugal, Pruſſia, Quinsbrough, Revel, Riga, Ruſſia, Spain, Stade, Stratten, Sweedland,* &c.

(*r*) L.V. Aitzma A° 1653. (*s*) A° 1633. (*t*) Page 140.

E. Are

E. Are you never afraid of *over ſtocking* the *Marts*?

D. No certainly, or *we* ſhould not *yearly* ſo much *Encreaſe* the number of our *Doggers*.

E. What Returns are made for your **Fiſh**?

D. Allum, Armour, Baratees, and other *Frankfort* Commodities; *Brandy, Bullion, Clapboard, Coin, Copper, Corn, Currants*, and other Grocery Wares, *Damasks, Deal-boards, Dollars, Flax, Fruit, Furrs, Fuſtins, Glaſs, Hemp, Honey, Hulſop, Iron, Lace, Linnen, Milſtones, Oyl, Pitch, Plate, Pot-Aſh, Prunes, Raſhes, Roſin, Sarcenets, Sattins, Silks, Skins, Steel, Tapſtrey, Tar, Timber, Velvets, Wainſcots, Wax, Wines*, and other things in abundance, the *Exporting* of which Commodities again to *other* Countries, gives full *Employment* to our *Ships*, ſo that *they* need not go in *Ballaſt* to ſeek *Fraight*, but by the *Profit* of our Outward bound *Voyages* are enabled to ſerve *Foreigners* ſo cheap, as to render us the common *Carriers* of the *World*, conſequently *maſters* of the moſt certain *Profit* in *Trade*; for when *Ships* arrive *ſafe* in Harbour, tho' *Merchants* happen to *loſe* by their *Goods*, yet *Sea-men* are paid their *full* Wages, *&c.*

Beſides, by continual *Bartering* of ſuch *Exports*, **Holland** is rendred the mighty *Storehouſe* and *Empory* of all Foreign *Products* and *Manufactures*, from whoſe infinite Miſcellany

of Goods, its *Inhabitants* are compleatly furnished with such sortable *Wares*, as enables them to *Trade* from *Port* to *Port*, without danger of *Glutting* Markets.

And thus as our **Fishery** hath encreased our *Trade* and *Navigation*, constant Employment hath still made *Foreigners* flock to *us* in such numbers, that out of our Multitudes, supplying *(from time to time)* the loss of so many lives, as the Change of Climates, Successes against the *Portuguezes*, and Victories against the *Indians* have cost us. **We** have *forced* Treaties of Commerce *exclusive* to all other *Nations*, built *Forts* upon *Straits* and *Passes*, that command the *Entrances* into places of *great* Traffick, Monopolized all the *Spice* Trade, and mightily advanced towards *Engrossing* the *whole* Commerce of the **East-Indies**.

E. Well may *you* boast that *Amsterdam* is founded upon **Herring** Bones; and no wonder, that notwithstanding your so *frequent* and so *chargeable* **Wars**, ever since your *Revolt* from **Spain**, *(tho' at the end of each Dance you have generally paid for the Musick)* yet there is hardly a *Beggar* in *your* Streets.

But if in *Holland*, which contains not above *Five Millions of Acres*, its Bogs and Sandy Downs included.

Holland, where you have no *Minerals*, and where it is in vain to *dig* for any thing but *Turf* and *Clay*.

Holland

Holland, where you have no Tree but what you planted, nor *Stone* but what you brought thither.

Holland ſo much lower than the *Ebbings* of the *Tides* and *Rivers*, that at vaſt Expence *you* are obliged with *Mills* to Drain the very *Floods* occaſioned by *Rain*.

Holland, where notwithſtanding *your* continual charge (*as was ſaid*) in repairing *Banks* and *Dykes*, frequent *Inundations* deſtroy *Man* and *Beaſt* for ſeveral Miles together, and then *vaſt* Sums (*and whole Years*) are ſpent, e're the *Land* can be regained.

Holland where (*the Eaſt Winds coming to you o're a mighty length of dry Continent*) extream *cold* and *long* Winters put you to the *Expence* of much *Fire*, *Candles*, *Food* and *Raiment*, and ſo great *charge* and *pains* in *Houſing* and *Foddering* your Cattle, all which time (*living on dry Food*) they yield little *Milk*.

Holland ſo expoſed to *black* Winds, that *blaſt* the *Bloſſoms* of its *Trees*, and *ſtorms* that *ſhatter* off (*e're ripe*) their *Fruit*.

Holland where that little *Arrable* Land you have (*lying generally on Sand and Clay*) bottoms, requireth much *Soile*; and where *ſeed time* is ſo ſhort, that unleſs it be exactly *nicked*, no Profit can be *reaped*; for when the *ſeed* rots in the ground (*as by great Rains it frequently happeneth*) the *ſeaſon* is generally paſt before *it* can be *ſown* again.

Holland

Holland, whose whole *Product* is scarce sufficient to serve (*u*) *One Eighth part of its Inhabitants*, consequently the rest are obliged to *purchase* the so necessary Commodities *Food* and *Raiment*, of neighbouring *Countries*, at the rates *they* can get them.

Holland, whose *Territories* extend upon *powerful* Neighbours, so that to defend its *Frontiers*, and draw out a *War* in length, by *Sieges*, in order to determine it by force of *Money* rather than of *Arms*, you are obliged to be at *vast* Expence in *Fortifications* and *Standing Troops* to defend them, even in the time of the profoundest *Peace*: For Instance, A° 1670. (*after all Reforms*) you had *Ten* Regiments of *Horse*, and *Nineteen* of *Foot*, making together *Twenty Six thousand two hundred* Men, the constant charge of which Forces was 556281 *l. Sterling*, *per Ann.*

I say, if in *Holland* naturally loaded with these Misfortunes, and all their innumerable *ill* Consequences; which, together with its unwholsome *Air*, and many other disadvantages, renders *it* unworthy to be *Cultivated*, or indeed *inhabited* by Mankind. Notwithstanding you are (*w*) *Bridled with hard Laws*, 'Terri-'fied *with severe Executions*, *Environed with*

(*u*) Pol. Gron. & Maxims van Holl. *pag.* 44. (*w*) *Sir* Will. Temple's *Observ. on the United Provinces.*

' *Foreign*

Foreign Forces, and oppreſſed with the moſt cruel Hardſhips, and variety of Taxes, that was ever known under any Government: Yet the *People* are grown *ſo* numerous, and *ſo* wealthy, by **Fiſhing** upon *our* Northern **Coaſts**.

Did we in **England** diligently apply **our** ſelves to the **Fiſhing** Trade, What a prodigious Advantage might *we* reap, conſidering the **Fiſhing** for *Cod, Conger, Hake, Herrings, Ling, Mackerel, Oiſter, Pilchards, Salmon, Scate, Soles, Sprats, Thornback, Turbets, Whitings*, &c. (whilſt in Seaſon) are upon *our* **Coaſts** all the Year long.

D. Juſt ſo much Advantage as the **Hamburghers** did, who (*after five or ſix years trial to imitate us in the Herring* **Fiſhery**) found to their *Coſt, we* ſtill out-did *them*, and ſo *we* ſhall *you*.

E. The reaſon why *you* out did the *Hamburghers*, was becauſe they were yearly *Frozen* up (*x*) ſomewhat longer than *you*; but ſeeing by that *Start* you could out-ſtrip them, ſurely the **Engliſh** need not fear the *Goale*, who (*beſides what has been ſaid*) have in **Fiſhing** many more advantages of *you*, than ever *you* had of the **Hamburghers**.

D. Ha! ha! ha! The generality of *your* Country men know better.

---

x Lex Mercat. *fol.* 171.

E. I am not Ignorant what *Induſtry* has been uſed to *poyſon my Countrymen* with an Opinion, that none but **Dutch** can thrive by **Fiſhing**; But *ſuch* as Examine the Matter, will find that the **Dutch** have above a *hundred* Leagues to Sail, before they come to the **Herring Fiſhery** (*which is only in the Britiſh Seas*) and when *there*, muſt lie at the *Mercy* of the *Winds*, for want of a *Port* to *Friend*, and in caſe of *unloading*, have as far *back* again, which takes up a *great* deal of *time*, *hinders* Buſineſs, and endangers the *loſs* of *their* Markets. *Whereas* in **England** **we** have the **Fiſh** upon our *own* Coaſts; ſo near *our* Shores, that in caſe of *Storms*, *Unloading*, taking in of *Proviſions*, or the like, it is but *four* or *five* hours Work (*commonly not ſo much*) to Recover an Harbour, and without *loſs* of time to put to **Sea** again, the work of *Unloading*, *Re-packing*, and ſending our **Fiſh** to Market, ſtill going on in *all* Weathers.

D. And have not **we** *Dogger-Boats* to take **off** our **Fiſh** at **Sea**, and *Refurniſh* the *Fiſhermen* with *Cask* and *other* Neceſſaries?

E. Yes Sir; and you have the *charge* and *risk* of thoſe **Dogger-Boats** too (*both which the Engliſh ſave*) yet if it happen to be a rowling **Sea**, *you* muſt lye by, and *wait* for a *Calm*.

D. What

D. What other Advantages have you of *us*?

E. *England* hath many convenient *Tide-haven*-Ports, as at *Hull*, *Harwich*, and *Holy-Island* to the *Northward*, and *Dover*, *Rye*, *Portſmouth*, *Southampton*, *Cowes*, *Weymouth*, *Dartmouth*, *Catwater*, *Hamoſe*, *Fowey*, *Falmouth*, *Hilford*, *Scilly*, and *Milford*, *Weſtward*, where at *low* Water, *all* of *them* are ſmall *Chingle*, or *hard Sand*; ſo that our *Veſſels* may eaſily haul *aſhore*, and *waſh* and *Tallow* at pleaſure; nor are *Creeks* and *Commodious* places wanting in England, to lodge our Buſſes and Duggers ſafe, when not Employed; ſo as to prevent wear of *Cables*, charge of *Watching*, danger of *Fire*, &c.

D. What elſe!

E. The Shores of *England* are *Bold*, the *Coaſts* high, *Land* eaſily diſcovered, ſeveral of our *Cape* Lands, oppoſite to *France* and *Holland*, make *Eddy Bays*, whoſe depth of *Water* is mean, as *ſix*, *eight*, *ten* or *twelve Fathom*; the Tides (*on our own Coaſts*) are ſmall *Anchorhold*, generally ſtiff *Clay*, *Chalk*, or hard *Gravel*; ſo that we need not dread *Winter Storms*, beſides the advantage we have of lying in a *moderate* Climate, and in the very *Centre* of the *Trade* of *Europe*, affords *us* opportunity of ſending to *Foreign* Parts from divers of our *Ports*, at all *Seaſons* of the *Year*; Whereas the *Coaſts*

of Holland are extreamly *low*, ſubject to be *hazy* and *foggy*, have many *Shoales* and *Sands*, ſome of which *lie* ſo far off at Sea, that frequently *Ships* are *Stranded* before they *ſee* Land; its *Ports* are *bad* and often *choaked* up with *quick-ſands*. Its *Havens* yearly *Frozen* up *two* or *three* Months together: And a North Weſt Wind (*uſually blowing the greateſt part of the Year*) makes Holland a *Lee*, and England a *Weather-Shore*; So that many times whilſt you are *Wind-bound*, or *Frozen* up at *Home*, we can ſupply the *Markets* abroad.

D. Well, but the *defects* of our *Coaſts*, and all the *Difficulties* our Country labours under, are ſufficiently made up by the *great* Care, and *prudent* Conduct of our *Magiſtrates*, who Court *Trade*, as a *Rich* Miſtreſs; and ſpare neither *Charge* nor *Pains* to attain *her*.

E. As how I pray *Sir*?

D. By Tolerating *Liberty* of *Conſcience*, and granting *Freedoms* of *Cities* for *little* or *no* Charge; whereby *all* ſuch as are Proſecuted for *Religion*, or through *diſcontent* leave their *Native* Countries, are *invited* and *incouraged* to come and *ſettle* with *us*.

E. What Advantage do you reap from ſuch Gueſts?

D. Encreaſe of *Trade*, *Riches* and *Strength*.

E. How do you make that out?

D. Foreign

D. Foreign *Gentry* bringing their *Eſtates* with them, *encreaſe* our *Wealth.*

Foreign *Merchants* diſcover to us *new* Myſteries in *Commerce*, and *enlarge* our *Traffick.*

Foreign *Mechanicks* daily *Improve* and *augment* our *Manufactures*, and have taught *us* ſo many *ſeveral* ſorts of *Trades*, and *uſeful* Engines and *Inventions* for diſpatching Work.

It was a *Corniſh Miner*, (*y*) That Diſcovered the *Tin* Mines in *Saxony*, *Violet*, and *Stevens*; (*z*) Two diſcontented *Engliſh* Fiſhmongers ſetling at **Enckhuyſen** in **Holland**, firſt taught *us* to make *deep Sea Nets*, and **Fiſh** upon the *Britiſh Coaſts.* And indeed few *People* venture to Travel, who are not *Maſters* of ſome excellent *Arts* or *Sciences.* But put chance any *Poor* viſited *us*, who had no *Trades* in their Bellies; if *they* will not ſerve us for *Soldiers*, yet they'll ſerve to make *Bricks*, dig *Turff*, &c.

E. Granting all this, if towards encouraging a National Fiſhery in *England*, our Parliament ſhould think fit to allow *Foreign* Proteſtants (*following the Buſineſs of the Fiſhing Trade*) the like Priviledges with *Natives* (*only in Sea Coaſt Towns*) your boaſted advantage would ſoon vaniſh, and ſuch Foreign *Prote-*

(*y*) Heylin's *Geography.* (*z*) Lex Mercat. 169. *and the Tombſtones of ſaid* Violet *and* Stevens, *at* Enckhuyſen, *till demoliſhed in the firſt Dutch Wars, by the Rabble.*

ſtan's would as certainly make our *Fifty two* decayed **Fiſhing** Towns *flouriſh*, as the **Malloone** and **Burgundian** Refugees planted by **Queen Elizabeth**, (*a*) at *Norwich*, *Canterbury*, and *Colcheſter*, raiſed them (*then ſo poor Cities*) to ſuch great *Trade*, *Riches*, and *Plenty*.

D. But to return to your former Diſcourſe; What other advantages have the **Engliſh** of the **Dutch**, in *Fiſhing*?

E. Near the Pile of *Foudray* in *Lancaſhire*, and in ſeveral other places along the Shores of *Wales*, we can *Fiſh* without the charge of *Buſſes*; for by only ſetting *Nets* on the *Sands* at Low Waters, great quantities of **Herrings** are taken next *Tide* of Ebb.

Again; the Coaſts of **Wales** abound with **Aſh**, which excels all *Wood* for drying **Herrings**, as far as its *Bark* doth *all others* for Tanning *Nets*; nor do we in **England** (*as you*) want *Willow Hoops* from *Hamburgh*.

D. Thoſe **Herrings** on the Coaſt of *Lancaſhire* (*coming newly out of the Ocean*) are ſo *fat* they will not take *Salt*, conſequently are apt to reaſt.

(*a*) *Anno* 1568.

E. **Pilchards** *(which ſo conſtantly viſit our Coaſt of* Cornwall*)* are alſo ſo *fat* they will not take *Salt* till *preſſed*; when to the great Encouragement of *Shipwrights*, *Curriers*, *Soapboilers*, &c. they yield *ſtore* of *Oyl*, and afterwards take *Salt* kindly. Now if we cure *fat Herrings* after the ſame manner, they'll produce double Profit.

D. How chance this Method was not found out ſooner?

E. Dies Diem docet, thoſe noble *Salt-Rocks* in *Cheſhire (ſufficient to ſupply all* Europe*)* have not been many Years diſcovered.

Again, of a *Stone* abounding in *Shropſhire*, much **Pitch** is now made, of ſo excellent a Nature, *Heat* only cauſeth it to *penetrate* deeper into *Plank*, and *Cold* cannot make it *crackle* off, the which, and our great Draw back upon Exporting Fiſh, are Advantages *Holland* wanteth.

D. What more?

E. You cannot ſhare with us in the **Red-Herring** and **Pilchard** *Trade*, not only for *want* of *Wood* at *reaſonable* Rates; but becauſe *thoſe* cannot be well cured, unleſs brought *freſh* on *Shore*; and being taken on *our* **Coaſts**, they'll be too ſtale before they arrive at *yours*: And not to mention our *Rich* **New-England Fiſhery**, our *Weſtern Ports* are incomparably *ſituated* for the *Newfound-land Fiſhing*; and the Country

Country it ſelf belonging to the *Crown* of *England*, you can have no footing there.

D. Notwithſtanding all the *Advantages* you ſpeak of, *your* chief **Fiſhing** *Towns*, **Yarmouth** and **Layſtoffe** are beholden either to **us** at *Enckhuyſen*, or to the **French** at *Diep*, for Selling them **Nets**.

E. Before the late *War* they uſed to buy **Sail-Cloath** of *you* too; but that now made at *Fulham*, &c. is brought to *equal* Perfection with your beſt *Holland's Duck*: And as for **Nets**, the *Towns you* mention have theſe *ſix Years (laſt paſt)* made *all* they *uſed*; and who knows, but that our **Artiſans** (*univerſally allowed the beſt upon Earth for Improvements*) may in a *little* time as much *excel* **you** in *theſe* things, as they *out-do* the **Germans** in fine *Steel-Works*; which though **they** firſt invented, yet we now *make* and *ſell* to *them*. But ſeeing you talk of being *beholden*, I think *you* are *beholden* to *us* for ſelling you our *Thames* **Lampyons**, wherewith you *bait* for *North-Sea-Cod*, elſe you might go . . . . . *whiſtle* for them.

D. Well now, *I* hope *you* have *told* all *your* Advantages.

E. Excuſe me, Sir, **England** affords **Timber, Iron**, and **Hemp**, whereas *you* are forced to *purchaſe* thoſe Commodities in *Foreign* Countries.

D. Never-

D. Nevertheleſs *thoſe* and *our* **Naval Stores** are return'd us in Exchange for only **Herrings**, which *coſt* us *little*, but the *trouble* of *hauling* up out of the **Sea**; ſo that *(reckoning the Employment of our Ships and Men)* it conduceth more to *our* advantage, then if our Country produced them: Whereas to purchaſe *Eaſt-Country* Wares, *you* are *yearly* forced to Export much of *your* **Coin**, to the great *exhauſting* the **Treaſure** of your *Nation*.

E. But if a **National Fiſhery** be *eſtabliſhed* in **England**, what ſhould hinder **us** from buying them with **Herrings** as well as *you*?

D. Your white *Herrings* are not ſo *bright* and *good* as *ours*.

E. Whilſt *your* **Clapboard** is floating from *Germany*, the **Rhine** draws out its *Sap*; and if *we* alſo *ſoak* the corroſive *Sap* out of *our* **Clap-board**, which now *diſcolours* and *preys* upon our *Fiſh*; and like *you* **gip** and **Salt** our **Herrings**, as ſoon as *taken*, they'll be every whit as *bright* and *good* as *yours*.

After all, *we* do not as *you* depend *ſolely* upon the **Eaſt Country** for **Naval Stores**; no, in caſe of **Exaction** or **Rupture**, *we* can be ſupplied from *our* **American Plantations**, which ſo abound with **Naval Stores**, *Ships* may be *there* built near a *fourth* part *cheaper* than in *Europe*.

D. Now

D. Now you talk of *Building*, Sir, *we* build cheaper in **Holland** then *you* do in **England**, and *Sail* our **Veſſels** with *fewer* Hands.

E. Our **Ships** are much *ſtronger* and *abler* to *brook* the **Seas** than *yours*, and will laſt *twice* as *long*; and as to *your* **Sailing** with *fewer* Hands, we *envy* not *your* Happineſs whilſt *(in proportion to your Tunnage and Number of Marriners)* **you** yearly loſe *(by undermanning) far* more *Ships* and *Mens Lives* then *we*; for which Reaſon, in above *three* parts of the **World, our** *Ships* yield *better* Freight; where then *lies* the *odds*, which were there any, could be only in *Merchantmen* to *carry* our *Fiſh* to *Market. Buſſes* and *Fiſher-Boats*, carry more Men to catch *Fiſh*, than are needful to *Sail* them: And in the *Green-land Trade*, each *Ship* muſt have *three* times the *Crew* that can *Navigate* her, to Man their *Shallops* when a *Fiſhing*, were not this true, ſince in *Building* **Engliſh Shipwights** know no *Maſters*; ſurely *we* might eaſily cauſe *our Ships* to be *Built* and *Manned* after *your* mode.

D. **Fiſhing** is a *work* for which the **Engliſh** are *unfit*, and requires ſuch *skilful, Induſtrious*, and *Robuſt* **Seamen**, as no *Country* breeds but **Holland.**

E. Your Learned *Keckerman* ſays, *Omnibus hodie Gentibus Navigandi Induſtriâ & peritiâ ſuperiores eſſe Anglos.*

'Tis

'Tis certain *our* **Marriners** are as *Bold* in Danger, and do as *Chearfully* undergo *Hardſhips* as any others; and for hard *Labour*, the working of a *Mine* is incomparably beyond that of a *Buſs*.

None but the **Great Britannia** can *boaſt*, their *Natives*, after *twelve* Hours hard *Work*, will go in the *Evening* to **Foot-ball, Stool-ball, Cricket, Priſon-baſe, Wreſtling, Cudgel-playing**, or ſome ſuch vehement *Exerciſe* for their *Recreations*; and as to their *Genius*, it's remarkable, that ſuch *Lads* and *Country Fellows*, as at *Yarmouth*, *Layſtoffe*, &c. are once hired into the **Fiſhing Trade**, and come to feed on the **Fiſh** they *Catch*, it improves *them* at ſuch a rate, that of *pittiful Weaklings* at *Land*, they become *healthful*, *ſtout*, and *hardy* Perſons; and upon *Trial* find *it* ſo much to their liking, that not *one* in *twenty* but takes to the **Sea** for good and all.

D. Engliſhmen are dainty Chap't, and when a **Fiſhing** cannot *Fare* like *ours*.

E. It is certain they *need* not, for *Meat* and *Drink* in **Ireland**, and in many parts of **England**, are above as *cheap* again as in **Holland**, which produceth no other Proviſions (*for Traffick*) than *Butter* and *Cheeſe*, and thoſe *too* are *cheaper* with *us* than with *you*. Beſides 'tis obſerv'd, that whatever the **Dutch Fiſhermen**

ſave by *eating* of **Gout**, they *drink* (*more than ours*) in **Brandy**.

D. Two thouſand five hundred Perſons are hardly able, in a *whole* Year, to make a **Fleet** of **Nets** for **Five hundred Buſſes**; now **England** hath many *Waſts* and unimproved *Lands*, which ſhews its not half Peopled; and of thoſe *you have* in it, conſider

How many *Women* and *Children* do juſt nothing, only learning to *ſpend* what others *get*.

How many are *meer Voluptuaries*, and as it were *Gameſters* by *Trade*.

How many live by *puzling* poor People with *unintelligible* Notions in . . . . . *Philoſophy*.

How many by *perſwading* **Credulous**, **Delicate**, and **Litigious** Perſons, that their *Bodies* or *Eſtates* are *out* of *Tune*, and in *danger*.

How many by *Trades* of meer *Pleaſure* or *Ornament*.

How many by *Fighting*, as *Soldiers*.

How many by *myſteries* of *Vice* and *Sin*, or in a *lazy* way of *Attendance* upon others; where then can you *hope* to find **Hands** to carry on your **Fiſhery**.

E. If a **National Fiſhery** be eſtabliſhed in **England**, 'tis odds but a **finer Country**, **cheaper** and **better Food**, **wholſomer Air**, **eaſier Rents**, and **leſs Hazard** and **Taxes**,

Taxes, will tempt many of your Countrymen to croſs the *Herring* Pond.

Again, of all *Trades*, Netting is one of the *eaſieſt* to attain; and if a National Fiſhery be eſtabliſhed in England, our Gentry, by cauſing their Footmen and Servants to riſe *early*, and *employ* their *idle* Hours in making Nets, may not only reap great *Profit* from their *Work*, but by *accuſtoming* them to *Induſtry* in their Youths, beget in *them* ſuch *Induſtrious Diſpoſitions*, as will prevent (*what now too frequently happens*) their becoming Beggars, or *worſe*, in old Age.

If a National Fiſhery be eſtabliſhed in England, how *comfortable* will it be to *all* poor Priſoners, Widows, and Orphans, when *they* may get their *Bread* by a Work not more *laborious* than Play, yet never *want* Employment.

If a National Fiſhery be eſtabliſhed in England, what an *advantage* will it prove to *all* poor Tradeſmen, Artificers and Labourers, when *they*, their Wives, Children and Servants, may *each* vacant Interval be getting a *Penny* by Making and Beeting of Nets.

If a National Fiſhery be eſtabliſhed in England, the *many* Thouſands Engliſh, Scotch, and Iriſh Marriners, who now *yearly* Fiſh for you, will not ſeek work *abroad*,

when they can *find* full Employment at *Home.*

Beſides too many *Thouſands* of *Diſbanded* Soldiers, and *late* Priſoners, Releaſed by the Act (9 Gul. 3.) now want *Employment*, and the *Streets* of London, and many parts adjacent, are *throng'd* with too many Beggars, *(the major part of which, tho' in a naſty Condition, ſeem to be young, ſtrong, and healthful Perſons)* for us to want Hands for the Fiſhery.

D. Give me leave *(by the way)* to ask you, whence 'tis London *ſwarms* with ſo many Drones?

E. Youths, Labourers, Artificers, Maid-Servants, and other Mean *People's* being *ſuffered* to leave the Country, and *ramble* up to London at pleaſure.

D. Can you give me an Inſtance of what you aſſert?

E. The very Servant-Maid, who perhaps in the *Country* was of excellent uſe in a *Dairy* at *Spinning*, or the like, having reſolved on a Ramble to London, is eaſily perſwaded to part with her *Chaſtity*, in hopes the *City* is big enough to *hide* her *ſhame*; and having once made *bold* with her *Conſcience*, ſticks not to *Steal* what ſhe can lay her *Fingers* on, towards the *Expence* of *her* Journey: Put caſe ſhe comes up *Honeſt*, ſo many *Bawds* Ply the *Carrier's Inns*,

to

to Insnare silly *Wenches*, that 'tis odds but she gets a great *Belly* before a *Service*, and then in few Months, over-run with some foul *Disease*, turns **Beggar**, and becomes *uncomfortable* to *her self*, and *unprofitable* to the *Kingdom*.

Now as for such poor *Wretches* **Children**, if not *Destroyed* in the **Womb**, or at the **Birth**, yet being bred up in **Beggery** and **Laziness**, they become of *unhealthful Bodies*, and more then ordinary *subject* to many loathsome *Diseases*, whereof very many *dye* in their tender *Age*; and such as arrive to *years* of *Strength*, by idle *Habits* contracted in their *Youths*, are rendred for ever *unapt* and *undisposed* to *Labour*, and serve only to *stock* the *Kingdom* with **Thieves** and **Beggars**.

D. The **Acres** of *Land* in **England**, are above *four* times as *many* as its **People**, and *those* of **Wales**, *ten* times more in *Number* than its *Inhabitants*, consequently **Work** cannot be wanting in the **Country**; what then brings *them* up to *London*

E. **Discontent**, **Curiosity**, hopes of *greater* **Wages**, or of *Living* **lazier Lives**.

D. In **Amsterdam** *we* think numbers of *hands* fit for *labour*, rather force *Industry*, than *breed* **Beggars**.

E. That's no wonder, since the **Sea-Harvest** of your **Fishery** is so great, all your **Labourers** prove too **few**, and **Work** still

encreaseth

encreaſeth *faſter* than your **Hands**. But it is not ſo with *us* ; for in **London** there are (*b*) about 695076 *Souls*, who by their *ordinary* proportion of **Breeding** and **Dying**, double their *Numbers* in (*c*) 64 Years ; which being conſidered, and the *great* Concourſe of *Foreigners*, it will plainly appear, that **London** wants not *Hands* from the **Country**, but on the contrary out of its *own* Produce, can ſpare many for *our* Plantations.

Nevertheleſs, *London* encreaſeth (*d*) *Six thouſand* yearly, by the Afflux of *People* out of the *Country*, whoſe little Money brought with them being *ſpent*, they (*or as many poor* Londoners *in their places*) for want of Employment muſt turn **Beggars**, if not *worſe*.

For Suppoſe in **London** but *One thouſand* People, *Nine hundred* and *twenty* whereof **Citizens**,, the other *Eighty* new **Comers**, and in all **London**, Employment only for **Nine hundred** and **twenty** Perſons, the remaining **Eighty**, muſt **Beg**, **Steal**, **Starve**, or *leave* the *Country* (*which too many yearly do*) and ſerve *our* Neighbours, till (*perhaps*) they are knockt on the *head* in their *Quarrels*.

(*b*) Sir William Petty. (*c*) Grant's *Obſervations on the Bills of Mortality*. (*d*) Ditto.

D. How-

D. However, tho' ſuch *Rambling* augments the *Numbers* of **Beggars** in **London**, the **Country** is troubled with ſo many the fewer **Vagabonds**, and *reaps* as much *benefit* by their *abſence*, as the **City** is dampnified by their *Company*.

E. On the contrary, for by the *loſs* of ſo many *prolifick* Perſons, the increaſe of the *Pariſhes* (*who had the trouble of breeding them*) is *hindred*, the number of *Labourers* diminiſhed, and *price* of **Work** and **Wages** much *enhanced*, to the great *detriment* of *Husbandry*, and *ſtop* to *Improvements*, which (*pro tanto*) *falls Rents*, yet *raiſeth* all *Manufactures*, conſequently *leſſens* their *Conſumption* both at *home* and *abroad*; till at length, *Maſters* wanting *vent* for their *Commodities*; are obliged to *quit* their *Trades*; and by *turning off* their *Journeymen*, to make whole *Families* of **Beggars** at once.

D. Well, but to *Return* to our *Diſcourſe* about your **National Fiſhery**.

The **Act** *of the* 25 *Car.* 2. allows *Recompence* to ſuch as *Export* **Corn** when it is *cheap*; and the **Act** *of the* 18 *Car.* 2. prohibits *Importation* of **Iriſh Cattle**, and all to keep up **Rents** in **England**; now *catching* much **Fiſh** will make it ſo **Cheap**, as to *hinder* the *Conſumption* of **Fleſh**, and ſo *cauſe* **Rents** to *fall*.

E. You

E. You *catch* ſo much **Fiſh** as to make it very *cheap* in **Holland**, yet your **Rents** are *dear*, and **Lands** at **Forty Years** Purchaſe.

2dly, Much **Fiſh** will occaſion the *Expence* of much **Butter**, and make *our* **Farmer** run much upon **Dairies**, the *Buſineſs* whereof, tho' *performed* by **Women**, turns to as *great* Advantage as the hardeſt *Labour* the **Husbandman** can *employ* his time in. Put caſe the *Market* ſhould be over-ſtock't at Home, **Engliſh Butter** is too good a Commodity in **Flanders**, **France**, **Spain**, **Portugal**, &c. ever to want vent abroad.

3dly, Catching much **Fiſh** will give *work* to many *Thouſands* of both *Sexes*, who, tho' now (*through Poverty*) live only on **Bread**, **Water**, **Pulſe**, **Roots**, and the like, yet when they come to have the *Rewards* of their *Labours* in their *Hands*, will not *puniſh* their *Carcaſſes* to ſpare their *Purſes*, but turn *Houſekeepers*, drink **Strong Beer**, eat **Roaſt Beef**, &c.

4thly, Catching much **Fiſh**, as it makes *Proviſions* Cheaper, will (*morally ſpeaking*) render us *leſs ſubject* to a *Famine*, which never happened in **England**, but it *enrich'd* **Holland** for *ſeven* Years after; the *Dutch*, **Hamburghers** and **Embdeners** having in a *Dearth* for the **Corn**, ſold **us** in a *Year* and a *half*, (*according*

ing

ing to Sir **Walter Raleigh**'s *Eſtimate)* carried away no leſs than *(e) Two Millions of Pounds Sterling*, to the great *Impoveriſhment* of our *People*, *diſcredit* of our *Merchants*, and *diſhonour* of our *Land*.

5thly, The cheaper our *Proviſions* are, the more *Navigation* is Encouraged, more *Foreign* Ships will Victual with *us*, and *fewer* of ours in *Ireland*; and the more **Beef**, **Pork**, &c. ſhall we *Export* to **Barbadoes**, **Jamaica**, &c. ſo that ſuppoſing *Meat* ſhould not always remain at a very exceſſive *Rate*, yet where a *greater* Conſumption cauſeth a *quick* Market, tho' at a midling Price, If the *Proverb* be true, **Light Gains will make a Heavy Purſe.**

6thly, **Gold** and **Silver** Mines **England** hath none; and in *(time of Peace)* no way to get **Bullion** but by *Foreign* Traffick, to which nothing can more conduce than *cheap* **Fiſhing**, and *cheap* **Working**, and **Manufacturing** the *Commodities* which compoſe the **Exports** of our *Kingdom*, and that is not to be effected except **Labour** be *Cheap*, which **it** can never be where **Proviſions** are dear; but the cheaper our *Proviſions* are, the cheaper our *Exports* may be *afforded*, conſequent-

(e) His Obſervat. on Trade, fol. 17.

ly the more *vent* we ſhall have for them, and much *vent* will cauſe many *Workmen*, and when the Wheel is ſet a going, *Trade* begets *Trade*, as *Fire* begets *Fire*; and the more *Trade* encreaſeth, the more will *Induſtrious* People (*from all Parts*) flock to **us**, and **Tennant** our **Houſes**, **Encloſe** our **Waſts**, *Improve* our **Lands**, *Encreaſe* our **Manufactures**, and *Enlarge* our **Products** far beyond the whole *Expence* of our *Nation*; and thereby (*in proportion*) add to its **Wealth** and **Treaſure**, for **Merchants** *Exporting* the *Surplus*, will in Returns bring back **Gold**, **Silver**, and other valuable Commodities, which in *England* (*that hath Property*) by Succeſſion of Contracts, will *diffuſe* among its *Inhabitants*; and thus, as the *Number* of the *Perſons* made **Rich** by their **Labour** and **Induſtry** encreaſe, and the *Choice* of **Tennants** and **Chapmen** are *Enlarged*, a kind of *Competition* amongſt them, *muſt* and *will* make **Rents** and **Lands** advance in *proportion*; Witneſs **Holland**, and ſuch of *our* **Lands** in all *Countries*, as lye near *great* and *populous* **Corporations**. So true is it, That **Trade and Lands are Twins that always war and wain together.**

Laſtly, how our **Parliament** will like a **National Fiſhery**, you may *gueſs* by the *Preamble* of an **Act**, paſſed in the 14 *Car.* 2. *cap.*

cap. 28. Wherein 'tis declared, 'That the 'Publick Honour, Wealth and Safety 'of this Realm, as well in the Main-'tenance of Trade, and Support of 'Navigation, as in many other respects 'doth in an high degree depend upon 'the Improvement and Encouragement of the Fishery.

D. However, as a *Friend* I advise *you* not to Concern *your* self in the **Fishery**, for in **Holland** *we* have *Money* at *Three*, whereas the **Trade** of *England* is burthened with **Six** *per Cent.* Interest, consequently **you** can never keep pace with **us**.

E. Why do *you* not (*for the same Reason*) advise *all* my *Countrymen* to forbear *Trading* to **East-India**, **Turkey**, **Spain**, **France**, **Italy**, **Portugal**, &c. nay to quit *all* **Navigation**, and *abandon* **our** selves to the *next* Comers; was it not the **Fishing Trade** gave *rise* to all your *Wealth*, and as *Money* grew *plentiful* in *Holland*, did not **Lands** rise gradually to near **Forty Years** Purchase, and **Interest** fall by degrees, from *Eight* to *Three per Cent.* Why then may not we expect, That a **National Fishery** will *do* the same in *England*, and (*pro tanto*) be a means to *regain* our **Muscovy**, **Greenland**, **Norway**, and **East-Country** *Trades*; for **still as Trade by Encreasing of Wealth**, causeth an A-

batement of Intereſt, Abatement of Intereſt will yet cauſe a further Encreaſe of Trade.

D. The *Dutch* are already ſettled in the Fiſhing *Trade.*

E. Stately Genoa that once Employed *Forty thouſand Hands* in the Silken Manufacture, declines now as *faſt* as *her* formerly *neglected* Neighbour Leghorn riſeth: And if the *French King* continues to *court* all the *World* with *popular* Immunities, Leghorn *(in time)* muſt give place to *her* Siſter Marſeilles.

The King of *Portugal* having diſcovered the *Paſſage* to the Eaſt-Indies, (*f*) by the *Cape* of *Good Hope*, and ſo diverted the *courſe* of *Trade*, driven by the Venetians from Alexandria, and the Red-Sea, to his Port of Lisbon, kept *Factors* at Antwerp to vend there his Indian Commodities, which drew ſeveral *Merchants* from divers parts to reſide there, and made that *pleaſant ſeated City* the Pack-houſe of Europe. But when the *Dutch* alſo (*g*) found the way to the *Indies*, and began to rival *Portugal* in that *Trade*, Merchants reſolving not to *looſe* the advantage of their *Skill* in *Indian Commodities*, by removing to Amſterdam, improved their own *Eſtates*, but ruined *Antwerp.*

(*f*) *Anno* 1500. (*g*) *Anno* 1602.

Thus

Thus you see **Trade** (*like the* **Sea** *its Element*) often *Ebbs* and *Flows* from *one* place to *another*; not many years since **we** *Imported Silk Stockings* from the *Levant*, but now the *Tide* is *turned*, and *we* send them *thither*.

D. Projects in **England** have (*of late*) *proved* very unsuccessful.

E. What tho' some Men have run upon wild Notions, and catching at *Shadows* lost their *Substance*. that's no Objection against the **National Fishery**, which is a *Certainty*, for the **Sea** yields *her* **Fish**, as well as the **Earth** *her* **Fruit** in *due* Season, and **Neptune** hath been *far* more bountiful to *you* than **Ceres.**

D. After all our Discourse, Pray *Sir*, have you Drawn up a Method for the Establishing a **National Fishery** in *England*?

E. I have made an Essay, but find the well-settling a **National Fishery** requires far better heads than mine.

D. However let's see the *Concept*.

E. Here it is, *Sir*, but done in haste, and may receive *Alterations* or *Additions* upon Consideration.

Dutchman

Dutchman Reads.

1. THAT towards raiſing a Joint Stock for Employing the Poor in a National Fiſhery, a Million be Subſcribed.

2. That the Money Subſcribed be called *Stock*, and be Aſſignable.

3. That every Subſcriber at the time of ſuch their Subſcription, Pay to . . . . . one full fourth part of his, her, or their reſpective Subſcriptions, and in default of ſuch Payment, every ſuch Subſcription to be utterly void and null.

4. That the reſidue of the ſaid Subſcriptions be paid by ſuch Proportions, and at ſuch Days and Times, as by a General Court of the ſaid Subſcribers ſhall from time to time be appointed: And in default of ſuch Payment, that then the fourth part, firſt paid, as aforeſaid, be Forfeited to the uſe of the Corporation herein after mentioned, their Succeſſors and Aſſigns.

5. That the Subſcribers be Incorporated by Act of Parliament (*by the Name of The Corporation for Employing the Poor of* England *in a National Fiſhery*) with perpetual Succeſſion.

6. That

6. That at a General Court to be held for the ſaid Corporation, Thirty be choſen out of the ſaid Subſcribers, by Plurality of Votes, and preſented to the Parliament.

7. That out of the ſaid Thirty, Ten be Nominated Fathers of the Poor, and Directors of the National Fiſhery by both Houſes of Parliament, approved by his Majeſty, and Accountable to them for their Truſt.

8. That in Caſe of Vacancy (*by the Death or Miſdemeanour*) of any one of the ſaid Fathers of the Poor (*during Seſſions of Parliament*) the ſaid Corporation to preſent Three, out of which his Majeſty and Parliament to Nominate One, as before, and ſo *toties quoties*. But in caſe the Parliament ſhall not be then Sitting, that ſuch Vacancies be filled up by the Majority of the ſurviving Fathers, until next Seſſions of Parliament, and then the Corporation to preſent, and King and Parliament to approve, as before.

9. That ſuch Fathers be Impowered to Conſtitute under the Seal of the ſaid Corporation, a ſufficient number of Deputies in each County in *England*; And that ſuch Deputies be, and be called, *Stewards of the Poor*.

10. That the ſaid Fathers, and ſuch Stewards of the Poor be exempted from all Pariſh Offices.

11. That

11. That the ſaid Fathers, and ſuch their Stewards be veſted with all Authority now in Juſtices of the Peace; and that all Pariſh Officers be ſubordinate and accountable to the ſaid Fathers and ſuch their Stewards, in all things (*only*) relating to the Poor.

12. That the ſaid Fathers and Stewards have freedom to ſet the Poor on Work, about ſuch of the ſaid Trades relating to the Fiſhery, as they ſhall think fit, with a *non obſtante* to all Patents that have been, or ſhall be Granted.

13. That to prevent People from being oppreſt, and ground to Poverty by Pawn-Brokers, that ſcrew out of them Forty or Fifty *per Cent.* the ſaid Fathers may be allowed to Erect Lumber Offices in every City and Town in *England*, excluſive of all others, upon Condition they take not above *per Cent. per Annum.*

14. That in all Churches (*as in Holland*) at every ſolemn Aſſembly, the Church-Wardens with a long Staff, Bag, and Bell, during the Sermon, receive the Charitable Benevolence of the whole Congregation, and pay the ſame to the ſaid Fathers, who ſhall cauſe a true account to be kept thereof, and apply it to the Erecting Hoſpitals in *London*, and other great Cities, wherein poor Women, near the time of their Travel, may be received and carefully

ly

ly delivered, and remain till they are in a Condition to return home and follow their Work; and if at the Year's end, any Over-plus of ſuch Collections remain, that the ſame be yearly applied for Marrying poor Maids.

15. That until the Buſineſs of the Fiſhery be ſufficient alone to give Employment to all our Poor, (*or at leaſt during Ten Years next after the Eſtabliſhing a National Fiſhery*) the ſaid Fathers and Stewards of the Poor, may be impowered to Imploy ſuch of them as they ſhall think fit, in Erecting Free Schools, Hoſpitals, Work-houſes, and Ware-houſes for the Corporation, in making Encloſures, in repairing Sea-Banks, Draining Fens, cleanſing and deepning Rivers and Havens, in Building and Repairing Churches, Bridges and Cauſeways, in mending Roads, in planting Oaks near Navigable Rivers, and Fruit Trees in Inland Countries; alſo in cleanſing of Streets, Common Shores, and the like.

16. That the ſaid Fathers of the Poor be Impowered to ſend ſuch Refractory Poor as they ſhall think fit, to ſerve in his Majeſties Plantations, taking Security for their comfortable Maintenance during their Service, and for their Freedom afterwards.

17. That all the Poors Rates in *England*, be Collected as formerly, by the Church-Wardens of each Pariſh, and by them quar-

terly paid in, to the Treaſury of the ſaid Corporation, as a Recompence for their Providing for the Poor, and freeing the Nation from Beggars.

18. That the Million Subſcribed be always kept intire, as a Security to Indempnify the Nation againſt the charge of the Poor, and the Income and Profits be only divided amongſt the Subſcribers.

19. That the Treaſure of the ſaid Corporation be accounted as Sacred, and that it be Felony to Imbezel, Lend, Convert, or Apply the ſame to any other Uſe, than maintaining the Poor, or carrying on the Buſineſs of the Fiſhery.

20. That the ſaid Fathers may buy up, when cheap, a certain quantity of Corn, Coals, &c. yearly, and lodge the ſame in their Granaries, for the uſe of the Poor, but not make Merchandize of them, or ſell them again in *England*.

21. That the Stock in the ſaid Fiſhery, be not chargeable with any Rates Duties, or Impoſitions whatſoever.

22. That Debts due to the Fiſhery, for Goods by them, *bona fide* Sold and Delivered, take Preference of all others, except thoſe due to the King.

23. That

23. That all Persons may Fish as formerly, and Sell what they catch in *England*, but none Export any Fish but the National Fishery, without paying them *per Cent.*

24. That his Majesty may be Addressed to grant Leases to the said National Fishery, of all Wasts and Derelict Lands; and that they may be Impowered to recover to their own use all such Lands as have lain Ten or more Years under Water.

Lastly, That all Powers, Priviledges, Benefits and Advantages, allowed by the *Dutch*, *French*, *Spanish*, *Venetians*, *Flanderkins* or *Hamburghers*, to Fishermen, or Merchants Trading in Fish, may be enjoyed by the said Corporation, together with such other Immunities as shall be thought convenient.

D. Av marry Sir, by this method **you** might *out-fish* **us** in good earnest; but give me leave to observe,

First, That should you go about to Employ your **Beggars** in such *Laborious* and *unpleasant* Business as is mentioned in the *Fifteenth Article*, the better *half* of your **Ramblers** would be frighted back to their *Rural Employments*, and betake themselves to so much **Thrift** and **Industry**, as to Maintain themselves without your Assistance.

Secondly, That there are few **Beggars** so **Old** and **Decrepit**, but that they are *Able* to do *some* **Work** or other, especially such as **Braiding** or **Beeting Nets**, making **Swills** and **Baskets**, cutting **Corks**, casting **Leads**, making **Noselles**, Spinning **Twine**, *Gipping* and *Speeting* **Herrings**, *picking* **Dakum**, and the like. Yea the very **Blind** may be useful in turning **Wheels**: Although their *Earnings* at such *Works* should be but *small*, yet if they be *constant*, it will more then pay for their *Maintenance*.

Thirdly, Not to mention the *Profit* that would immediately *accrew*, by *letting out* **sturdy Beggars**, of *both* Sexes, for performing the business in the said *Fifteenth Article* mentioned; yet, if according to the *Twelfth*, **Girls** be obliged to serve the *Corporation* till they are *One and Twenty*, and **Boys** till *Twenty four* Years of Age; in that time (*such as live*) will earn above ten times as much as the chare of *Breeding* and *Instructing* them; which makes me conclude, that the *Parliament* of **England** will never *grant* both the *great Benefit* of **Employing** the **Poor**, together with the **Poors-Rate**, (*which in the latter end of the Reign of King* Charles *the 2d*, *came to* (*b*) 665362 l. *Sterling*, per Ann. *and now amounts to much more*) to any *Corporation* or Set of *men* whatsoever.

(*b*) *Essay on Ways and Means*, Fol. 77. E. Al-

E. Allowing your *first* Obſervation true, Would it not ſtill be *much* better for England, then that Idleneſs ſhould continue to *ſuck* the Breaſts of *Induſtry*; and that ſuch as are *able* to Work ſhould live upon the Publick, without return of Labour for their Bread.

As for your *ſecond* Obſervation, it's Anſwered, that a *Conſtant* Employment of ſuch *Impotent* Poor, will not only be a continual *eaſe* and *comfort* to *them*, by *amuſing* and *diverting them*, from *thinking* of their Poverty and other Miſeries, but in ſome meaſure be a re-peopling of us too, by adding ſo many loſt *Hands* to the *Service* of the Publick.

Again, Granting your *third* Obſervation *true*, yet it is as *true*, that it is as much more Charity to put the Poor in a way to live by *honeſt* Labour, than to *maintain* them Idle, as it is to ſet a Man's *broaken* Leg that he may *go* himſelf, *rather* than always to *carry* him.

Now ſuch Boys as are the *Corporations* Prentices, being in the Fiſhing Seaſons *employed* at Sea, and at *other* times *working* on Shore, at that of the ſaid *Thirty four* Trades relating to the Fiſhery to which *they* were bound, when *their* times are Out, will *all* of *them* be able to get a Livelihood *either* at Sea or Land; and if to render *them*, more capable of *Serving* our *Country*, the Corporation *(at four a Clock each Saturday in the Afternoon)* ſhould cauſe

cauſe them when (*on Shore*) to **Muſter** and **Exerciſe**, (*altho' only with Staves*) and for Diverſion to play at **Cudgels** or **Fence**, and *Reward* the *Conquerors* with *Liberty* of wearing a *ſmall* **Ribbon**, whoſe diſtinguiſhing *Colour* of **Red**, **Blew**, &c. ſhould *Entitle* them to be called **Captains**, **Lieutenants**, &c. by the reſt of their *fellow Servants*, till next weeks *Trial* of *Skill*; how ſoon would *Emulation* beget *Addreſs*? and what a *Treaſure* and *Strength* to **England** would ſuch a **Sea Militia** be always *ready* for *Service* both by **Sea** and **Land**, and yet *no* charge to the *Nation* till actually in it.

And as for your *Concluſion*, ſhould our **Parliament** think the *Conceſſions* too great for *ſuch* a **Corporation**, they might eaſily *ballance* the *Scale*, either by limiting the *Subſcriptions* to ſuch as were *rated* as *Gentlemen*, or *higher* in the firſt **Poll Tax**, allowing them to *Subſcribe* in proportion only to what they paid, or elſe (*as in the Buſineſs of the New* East-India *Company*) the *Charter* may be granted to ſuch *Subſcribers* as ſhall advance to the *Government* a Loan of .... Pounds, at 6 *l. per Cent.* Intereſt.

D. Were all this done, Where will you find a ſet of *honeſt men* to manage the Buſineſs in **England**.

E. In **Amſterdam** you have your *Church-Wardens*, *Directors* of your *Dulhouſe*, of your *Raſp-*

Raſp-houſe, of your *Spin-houſe*, of your *Old-Mans-houſe*, &c. Commiſſioners of your *Cleyne Saeker*, of your *Levant Trade*, of your *Zea Saeken*, &c. alſo your *Vroedſchap*, your *Schepens*, and your *Burgemaſters*, all which are places of far more Trouble than Profit, yet *(being the uſual ſteps to Preferment)* are moſt an end *officiated* without *Reproach*: Not for that the **Dutch** are *honeſter* Men then their *Neighbours*, but becauſe ſuch as are found *Tardy* in any of theſe *Employments*, are barred all *future* hopes of *Advancement*: And ſhould our **Parliament** Addreſs his **Majeſty** to prefer in the *Cuſtom-houſe*, *Exciſe*, &c. *ſuch* as had well behaved themſelves in the **Fiſhery**; and make *Breach* of *Truſt* therein to **Incapacitate** men for .... Years, from *ſerving* the *Government* in *any* Employment either *Military* or *Civil* (*how ſmall Wages ſoever the Corporation allowed*) *they* would never want good **Servants**, that *Voluntier*-like would *vie* with *each* other, who ſhould *beſt* ſerve their *Country*, by *moſt* promoting its **Fiſhery**.

D. Well, When the *Engliſh* ſettle ſuch a **National Fiſhery**, as my *Grandfather* abandoned **Antwerp** when its Trade began to decay, and removed to **Amſterdam**, ſo I'll bid *Adiew* to **t'Vaderlandt**, and Remove to **England**, in the Interim *Farewel*.

CON-

CONCLUSION.

SEeing a **National Fishery** may be rendred of such mighty *advantage* to our *Country*, and that the *way* to **all** this **Wealth** and **Happiness**, is neither *hedged* up with *Thorns*, nor *hidden* from **us** in the **Dark**; But so *natural* and *facile*, that by only **a Frugal and Industrious Management of Affairs**, (*without quarrelling with our Neighbours*) **we** may quickly become **Sole** *Masters* of the **Fishing Trade.**

For shame let not **English-men** longer say, with *Solomon's* Sloathful, *Prov.* 26. 18. ☞ *There is a* **Lyon** *in the Way.*